

**Valentine Crawford to George Washington, July 27, 1774, Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.**

**FROM MR. VALENTINE CRAWFORD.**

JACOBS CREEK July 27th 1774

DEAR COLO

on Sunday Evining or Munday Morning william ore one of the Most orderley Men I thought I had Ran away and has tuck a horse and other things as I have Sent you an advertisement of<sup>1</sup> and I am Convinced he will Make for Som Ship in potomack River I have Sent two Men after them and furnished them with horses and Money and have wrote to My Brother Richard Stephenson in Berkeley and James Mccormick to Esco[r]t the Men I Sent to forward this Letter and advertisment to you I Should have fralowed him My Sellfe but all the Men Except Som old men are gon with My Brothers down to the Enden towns<sup>2</sup> and Sence the Started there has been Seen Seen about the Monongahala Som parteys of endens a Coming in to the Enhabetance and we owerLey<sup>3</sup> Expect them to Strike Somwhere the Indens has Kild and taken with in this ten days 13 people up about the forks of Cheat River which is about 25 Miles from Me and I would have folowd this Man My Selfe but I have the Charge of Both My Brothers fameley tell there Return and if I would Leve home the people would all give up My Fort and Move over the Mountains for I have above 200 people in My Fort att this time Cheifley women and Cildren for all the Men is gon to the towns and Ever Sen[c]e the Men Set off to the town Evrey bodys is flew to the

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Forts and it Seems to Me our Standing of our ground here a good Dele depends on the Success of our Men that is gon agains the towns the govener wrote very Ernestly to Capt. Conely to give My Brother Wm Crawford the Comand of all the Men that Is gon against the towns<sup>4</sup> which amount to about 700 men Enclusing all the Militia that Came from Below and Conely him Selfe to Reside att Fort pitt Mjer Macdonald Came up here and is gon down [to] wheelin in order to take the Comand But I have Seen Severell Letters from Lordonmore<sup>5</sup> both to My Brother and to Conely and he has Not Mentioned Macdonalds Name in them but I hered by Mr. Brown the express who told Me him Selfe that on thirsdays Last he parted with Lordonmore att winchester and he wase to perseed amedently to this Neabour Hood Where I hope he will Reglate Maters him Selfe.

I have Sold all the Men but two and I bleve Should have Sold them but the Man that is Run away had a verrey Sore foot he Cut with an ax which wase Not Long well and John Smith wase Not well of the fould disorder which he had when he Left Your House I Sold peter Miller and John Wood to one Mr Edward Coke for £45 the Money to be aplied to use of building you Mill and I Sold Thomas Mcfarson and his Wife and James Low to Majer John Mccoluck and Mr James Enis for £65 pounds paible in Six Month with Interest from the date and My Brother Wm tuck Thomas White and the Boy John Knight and is Ether to pay you for them or Return them in Case you Could prosacute your design down the River and I taik John Smith and Wm Ore on the same terms So that In Justice I am accountable to you for the Man Iff he Is Never got But I Should have Sold Sold the hole of the Sarvents agreeable to your Letter if I Could a got Cash or good pay but the Confusion of times put it out of My power and out here we had one day peace and the Next day ware So it wase hard to Know how to act Even if you were here your Selfe for I have been Confind att home Ever Sen[c]e I Come up here I onley went down to Fort pitt a day or two and two of My own Sarvant and two Milition Men Ran away and I folowd them My Selfe and Koch them all down att bedford and brought them back and while I wase gon from home two of your Men John Wood and peeter Miller had Stole a quantity of bacon and bred and wase to a Started the verrey Night I got home but a man of Mine discovered on them there

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design and I Sold them Emedently and I would have Sold the hole if I Could or delivered them to Mr Simson but he would Not be Concarnd with them att Eney Reate my waggon and team had been att worke att your Mill for Som time a halling of the timber Stone and Lime and Sand for your Mill and I went over to the [mill] to Esist in haling of Som of the Largest of the timber but the Leate Elarming acoumpt of the Indens the workemen has all Stopt and I have broate home My team and I ken [covered by seal] a pitey it wase Ever begun in these [covered by seal] Som times as it apears to me it will be a verey Expencive Job to you before it is done pay all the Carpentrs I brought out for you those Stopt the Sixth of May Except Som of them that wase att work att your Mill I Contnued them Longer but I pay them My Selfe I Shell obsarve your orders in Regard to Setling with the Carpentrs pray take all peans you Can in Advertising of this Man to prevent his geting off by water

So I am Sir your Most Hble Savent VALE: CRAWFORD

1 FIVE POUNDS REWARD. Run away from the Subscriber living on Jacobs Creek near Steward Crossings in Westmoreland County Pennsylvania, on Sunday Night the 24th Inst. A Convict Servant Man named Wm: Orre the Property of Conl. George Washington, he is a well made Man about 5 foot to Inches high, and about 24 Years of Age, he was born in Scotland and talks that Dialect pretty much, he is of a Red Complexion & very full Faced, with short Sandy coulard Hair, and very Remarkable Thumbs they being both crooked; he had on and took with him, an old Felt Hatt, bound with black Binding, one White Cotton Coat and Jacket with black Horn Buttons, one old brown Jacket, one pair of Snuff coulard Breeches, one pair of Trowzers made in Sailers Fash 1 on and they are made of Sail Duck and have not been washed, a pair of Red Leggins and Shoes tied with Strings, two Osnabrigs Shirts, and one Holland Shirt marked V. C. which he Stole and a Blanket. He Stole likewise a Black Horse about 14 hands high, branded on the near Shoulder and Buttock R. W. & shod before, he has neither Bridle nor Saddle that we know of, I expect he will make to some Seaport Town, as he has been much used to the Seas. Whoever takes up said Servant and Secures him, so that he and Horse may be had again, shall Receive the above Reward; or Three Pounds for the Man alone, and Reasonable Charges if brought home paid by Me--- VALE CRAWFORD for CONL GEO. WASHINGTON July 25th 1774N. B. all Masters of Vessels are forbid taking him out of the Country on their Peril. — V. C. [This advertisement is not in Valentine Crawford's handwriting.]

2 This expedition was commanded by Major Angus McDonald, who was instructed to destroy the Shawanese or Wappatomica towns. In this he was easily successful, as the savage foe had fled when he reached their villages, but the Indians under Logan continued to harass the settlers long after the troops had returned to the fort at Wheeling.

3 hourly.

4 "It is highly necessary that you continue at Fort Dunmore, and I think therefore, that you could not do better than send Captain William Crawford with what men you can spare to join him, and to co-operate with Colonel Lewis, or to strike a stroke himself if he thinks he can do it with safety. I know him to be prudent, active, and

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resolute, and therefore very fit to go on such an expedition.”—Lord Dunmore to John Connolly, June 20, 1774, American Archives, Fourth Series, vol. i. p. 474.

5 Lord Dunmore.